
Worksheet
Determination of NEPA Adequacy (DNA)
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

OFFICE: Kingman Field Office (KFO)

NEPA DOCUMENT NUMBER: DOI-BLM-AZ-C010-2011-0001-DNA
CASE FILE NUMBER:

PROPOSED ACTION TITLE/TYPE: 2011 Foothills Rim Trail

LOCATION/LEGAL DESCRIPTION: T. 21N., R. 17W., Sections 16-17, 20-21 & 28-29

APPLICANT (if any): BLM, Kingman Field Office, Recreation Program

A. Description of the Proposed Action and any applicable mitigation measures:

Construct and maintain approximately 10 miles of Foothills Rim Trail, which is located adjacent to, west of, and connects with the Monolith Garden Trail. The trail is an expansion of the trail system within the Cerbat Foothills Recreation Area. The action would consist of clearing brush in a corridor 6 feet wide, followed by excavation of soil and rock to form a level walking surface 2-3 feet in width. The trail would be constructed to BLM standards, which includes a tread out-slope of 1-2 percent, and a maximum sustained grade of 8 percent. Ideally, the grade would be 5 percent or less, to allow for user comfort and reduced soil erosion potential. The fiberglass posts with decals would be installed at trail junctions. BLM staff, volunteers and youth corps would hike into the area and use hand tools to construct and maintain the trail. The maintenance of the trail would be conducted as needed. Recreation use of the trail would be year-round, and would be limited to non-motorized uses (hiking, running, mountain biking and horseback riding). The work would start in the spring of 2011.

The monitoring of the trail for the presence of exotic weeds by BLM staff, volunteers and the public would help to minimize the potential for weed introduction.

Native American Consultation was initiated and completed with the Hualapai Tribe. There would be no effect to historic properties.

B. Land Use Plan (LUP) Conformance

LUP Name: *Kingman Resource Management Plan/EIS*

Date Approved: March 1995

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decisions:

RR08/C2 in the Kingman RMP - "Develop day use/trailhead sites, trails, campgrounds and interpretive sites within SRMAs" (Alternative 2 on page 76, Table 8 on page 78 and Table on pages 138-139)

C. Identify applicable National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents and other related documents that cover the proposed action.

List by name and date all applicable NEPA documents that cover the proposed action.

1. EA# AZ-025-94-046, Approve Cerbat Foothills Recreation Area (CFRA) Management Plan, May, 1995 (Trail Development and Location on page 12 and Map 4 on page 15).
2. DNA# AZ-030-2002-020, Cook Canyon Trail, June, 2002.

List by name and date other documentation relevant to the proposed action (e.g., biological assessment, biological opinion, watershed assessment, allotment evaluation, and monitoring report).

N/A

D. NEPA Adequacy Criteria

1. Is the new proposed action a feature of, or essentially similar to, an alternative analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? Is the project within the same analysis area, or if the project location is different, are the geographic and resource conditions sufficiently similar to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)? If there are differences, can you explain why they are not substantial?

Documentation of answer and explanation:

Yes, the current proposed action is essentially similar to the alternative selected and analyzed in EA# AZ-025-94-046 (CFRA Management Plan).

2. Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s) appropriate with respect to the new proposed action, given current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values?

Documentation of answer and explanation:

Yes, the range of alternatives analyzed in EA# AZ-025-94-046 is appropriate to the current proposed action, given the current environmental concerns, interests and resource values.

3. Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances (such as, rangeland health standard assessment, recent endangered species listings, updated lists of BLM-sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that new information and new circumstances would not substantially change the analysis of the new proposed action?

Documentation of answer and explanation:

Yes, the analysis undertaken in EA# AZ-025-94-046 is still valid. Since the development of this EA, four changes have been made to the listing of "Critical Elements of the Human Environment" which must be addressed in each NEPA analysis. Four new elements were added: (1) Invasive, Non-Native Species, (2) Environmental Justice and (3) Water Quality (Surface & Ground), and (4) Energy. The proposed action above would have no impacts on these elements: Environmental Justice, Water Quality, and Energy.

The potential for introduction of invasive, non-native species to the area could be increased because of increased use of saddle stock in the area. This could occur if stock owners feed their animals hay that contains weed seeds which may then be deposited in dung along the trail. Judicious monitoring of the trail for the presence of exotic weeds could help to minimize the potential for weed introduction. It should be recognized that horseback riders would continue to use the area if trails were not built, thus the potential for weed introduction would still exist.

Since the EA for the CFRA Management Plan was written in 1995, the Sonoran Desert tortoise has been listed by the Fish and Wildlife Service as a Candidate species (2011). The BLM treats candidate species

as Sensitive Species. Actions taken by the BLM must not contribute to the need to list a candidate species. The tortoise occurs within the project area and the analysis of impacts for this species analyzed in the EA is adequate. This action would not contribute to the need to list the tortoise. Mitigation for the tortoise as described in the EA (dogs on leash and tortoise educational sign installed) still adequately mitigate impacts to tortoise from the proposed trail development.

4. Are the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the new proposed action similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document?

Documentation of answer and explanation:

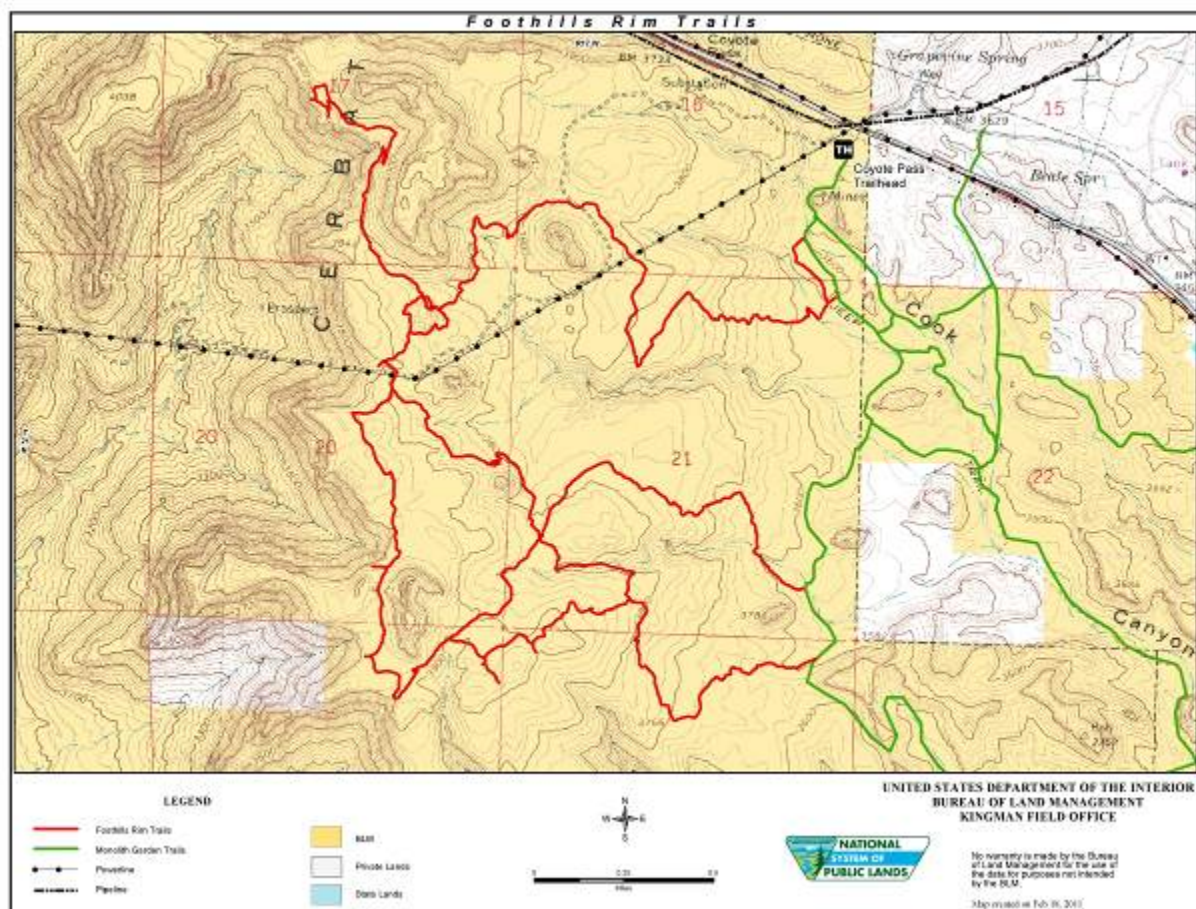
Yes, direct, indirect and cumulative impacts of the proposed action are substantially unchanged from those identified in EA# AZ-025-94-046 and DNA # AZ-030-2002-020.

The project would have “No effect” on any endangered or threatened wildlife or plant species.

5. Are the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the current proposed action?

Documentation of answer and explanation:

Yes, the consultation and coordination that was associated with EA# AZ-025-94-046 is considered adequate for the current proposed action.



E. Persons/Agencies/BLM Staff Consulted

This proposal was presented at the BLM/ bi-weekly project coordination meeting held on October 5, 2010. Persons expressing an interest in reviewing the proposal are listed on the attached KFO Scoping Form. Arizona Game and Fish Department and the Hualapai Tribe were not present at the project coordination meeting but were notified of the project.

Conclusion

Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to the applicable land use plan and that the NEPA documentation fully covers the proposed action and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirements of the NEPA.

_____/ s / Len Marceau
Signature of Project Lead
Len Marceau

_____2/28/2011_____
Date

_____/ s / David Brock
Signature of NEPA Coordinator
David Brock

_____3/01/2011_____
Date

_____/ s / J Neckels
Signature of the Responsible Official
Jackie Neckels
Assistant Field Manager, Nonrenewable Resources
Kingman Field Office

_____3/01/2011_____
Date

Note: The signed Conclusion on this Worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision. However, the lease, permit, or other authorization based on this DNA is subject to protest and appeal under 43 CFR Part 4 and the program-specific regulations.

DECISION RECORD

NEPA Document Number: DOI-BLM-AZ-C010-2011-0001-DNA

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LUP Name: *Kingman Resource Management Plan/EIS* Approved: March 1995

Based on the analysis of potential environmental impacts contained in the attached Determination of NEPA Adequacy and as analyzed in the previous environmental assessment (EA# AZ-025-94-046), I have determined that the action will not have a significant effect on the human environment. An environmental impact statement is therefore not required.

It is my decision to approve the action as proposed, with the following stipulations (if applicable).

/ s / J Neckels
Signature of the Responsible Official
Jackie Neckels
Assistant Field Manager, Nonrenewable Resources
Kingman Field Office

3/01/2011
Date

Exhibits: Stipulations -

- Any cultural and/or paleontological resource (historic or prehistoric site or object) discovered by the trail workers, such as volunteers, youth corps or any person working on public or Federal land shall be immediately reported to the Bureau of Land Management authorized representative. The trail construction workers shall suspend all operations in the immediate area of such discovery until written authorization to precede is issued by the authorized representative to determine appropriate actions to prevent the loss of significant cultural or scientific values.
- All activities, from construction to recreational use, need to be confined to approved trail routes only.

APPENDIX 1



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Kingman Field Office
2755 Mission Boulevard
Kingman, Arizona 86401
www.az.blm.gov



GUIDELINES FOR HANDLING DESERT TORTOISE ENCOUNTERED ON ROADS AND VEHICLE WAYS

1. Stop your vehicle and allow the tortoise to move off the road.
 2. If the tortoise is not moving, gently** pick up the tortoise and move it approximately 200 feet off the road to a shaded location.
 - a. Do **not** turn the tortoise over.
 - b. Move the tortoise in the direction it was traveling. If it was crossing the road, move it in the direction it was crossing.
 - c. Keep the tortoise within 12-18 inches of the ground, move slowly so as not to cause it to become alarmed.
 - d. Release the tortoise under the shade of a bush or rock.
- ** Tortoise store water in their bladder. If a tortoise becomes alarmed its defense is to void its bladder onto the captor. This could lead to dehydration of the tortoise and potentially to death.
3. Prior to moving any parked vehicles or equipment at the project site, check for tortoise under the vehicles.

